(b) whether the CRPF Jawans, in uniform, were drunk, when the school team boarded the train at Itarsi; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not attending the complaints, by the Railway officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir. On 18.10.2002, CRPF personnel reportedly harassed and allegedly molested some of the girls students and three female teachers in Kerala Express between Itarsi and Alwaye on their journey. A case on Crime No. 75/2002 u/s 143, 223, 354 R/W 149 IPC and 145 Railway Act was registered at GRP Station/ Emukulam against CRPF personnel.

(b) Some of CRPF Jawans were in civil dress. It is not known if they were drunk or not.

(c) Prevention and detection of crime on Railways including running trains being the constitutional responsibility of the Government Railway Police, the complaint was attended by GRP/Kerala and legal action was initiated against CRPF personnel.

Natural Wealth of India

3253. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether manuscripts of Natural Wealth of India series, entitled Bamboos of India; Neem in India; Cotton in India; Mango in India and Natural Dyes of India, submitted for approval, have been pending with competent authority, NISCAIR (CSIR), for a long time;

(b) if so, the dates of initial submission of above titles and the reasons for delay in approval;

(c) whether a brochure on above titles, alongwith feed back proforma, were published during 2002;

(d) whether NISCAIR used to bring out such proforma, before approval of titles for publication; and

(e) if so, the details thereof including of IT books, for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) and (d) No, Sir.

(b) and (e) Do not arise.

(c) A composite brochure consisting of the above titles was published in November, 2002 for assessing the volume of their print order.

Indian Science Congress

3254. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the next Indian Science Congress would be held in Bangalore;

(b) if so, when it would be held;

(c) the number of scientists expected to participate in the proposed meet;

(d) the estimated expenditure for convening the above meet;

(e) the amount released so far; and

(f) whether the Karnataka Government has been involved in organizing the above meet?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The 90th Session of Indian Science Congress will be held during 3rd to 7th January, 2003 in Jnana Bharati Campus of Bangalore University, Bangalore.

(c) About 7000 delegates are expected to participate in the Congress.

(d) The estimated expenditure for convening the Congress is around Rs. 400 lakhs.

(e) The Department of Science and Technology has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 25 lakhs for the Congress and an amount of Rs. 10 lakhs has been released as the first instalment. In addition, financial support